

**COMMUNITY AND IN-HOME OPTIONS TO INSTITUTIONAL CARE FOR
THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED (CHOICE)
Board Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2010**

**Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room 17
402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN**

CHOICE Board Members in Attendance: Dr. F. Timothy Janis, Adrienne Shields, Prudence Twigg, Senator Jean Breaux, Senator Venata Becker, Pete Emigh, Rep. Ed Clere, Noble Stallons, Jean Macdonald

CHOICE Board Members Absent: John Holmes, Rep. John Day, Dorian Maples, Blake Jackson, Kay Crawford

Visitors in Attendance: June Holt, Susan Ellis, Ann Allen, Orion Bell, Paul Chase, Teresa Orenz, Jim Leich, Cindy Wides, Rebecca Kasper, Kathryn Williams, Roxsandra Clemons-McFarthing

Call to Order: Chairperson Prudence Twigg called the meeting to order. There was motion to approve the May minutes, there were two corrections page 2 paragraph 3 and 4 in reference to the freestanding committee it should be changed to “informs the Board” not “advises the Board”. The motion was and approved unanimously by the Board. The second correction was on page 1 last paragraph last sentence “therefore, Medicaid Waiver Clients.... “ strike the whole sentence. The motion was made and unanimously approval by the Board. With the corrections approved the minutes were unanimously approved as amended by the Board.

Division of Aging Update: Director Faith Laird presented the Division of Aging update and presented the Board with the comments to a letter to her and Budget Director Chris Ruhl from Sen. Becker even though she did not directly receive the letter. The area agencies knew in advance of the 15% budget cuts for FY11 beginning July 1st. Director Laird also explained the \$2.2 million in CHOICE funds and when they would be allotted to the Division of Aging. Director Laird discussed CHOICE funding being 100% state funded and Medicaid waivers being 25% state and 75% federal funding and the difference between CHOICE clients and Medicaid waiver clients.

In December the Medicaid Waiver was closed to new clients, but previously due to the efficiencies by the area agencies and the Division of Aging they increased the number of clients served under the A&D waiver by over 7,000 individuals since January 2005. We are now serving the maximum number of clients this year by 10,000 clients this is almost a 200% growth in home and community based clients since 2003. The Division of Aging has served more than 14,000 clients under CHOICE, Title III and SSBG for a total of 24,000 served by home and based services each month and that does not include 15,000 nutrition clients.

Director Faith Laird also mentioned the article printed by the media comparing our state to Washington as a role model in home health care options.

Director Faith Laird mentioned the CHOICE Board's statutory duties and their understanding and cooperation in looking more specifically at assuring that these policies and services are fiscally sound. Faith went over and answered questions that was presented at the last meeting and brought the Board up to date on Phase 2 of the state plan amendment which was approved by CMS on May 25th and had effective date of January 1st.

Old Business: Celeste Stinson presented a handout of the CHOICE waitlist numbers, the current numbers on the waitlist is 3,275 as of March, and the handout of the CHOICE Quarter 3 report (Jan. 1st – Mar. 31^s, 2010) showing a breakdown by area agency showing the number of clients on the waitlist and the length of time on the waitlist. Celeste informed the CHOICE Board that she is leaving and that Tyson Runkle will be taking her place as the Division's liaison to the Board.

IAAAA & AAA Update: Kristen LaEace thanked the Division and the CHOICE Board and audience who continue to advocate for allocations from the Budget Agency and the Division. Kristen commented on some of policy questions and wanted to reiterate the important role that CHOICE plays in preventative care.

Public Comments: John Cardwell, Chairperson of the Home Care Task Force passed out a handout of his comments made at the last meeting to the Board. The handout contained 3 pages of policy suggestions and 1 page of charts of the current CHOICE annual report, 2 pages of issues discussed regarding the open door law and the uses of CHOICE funds, and the past 2 pages written by the Director of the Senior Law Project. John encouraged the Board to read the handout.

Adjournment: Prudence adjourned the meeting with the next meeting set for September.